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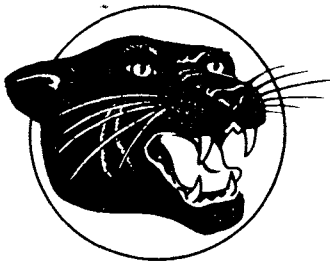
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Panther Sports News

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Nov. 2, 1982
LS-AS-FB State-
FB OPP

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--A share of the Mid-Continent Conference championship and the next to last hurdle to an undefeated season are the stakes for Eastern Illinois University's football Panthers Saturday.

EIU travels to Springfield, MO to challenge the Southwest Missouri State Bears. Game time is 1:30 p.m. Saturday (Nov. 6).

Eastern, 8-0-1 and ranked No. 7 in the NCAA I-AA poll, is aiming for its tenth straight, dating back to last year, without a loss.

Southwest Missouri, 5-4, would like to have a winning season in its first year of I-AA competition. The Bears close at Southern Illinois November 13.

Also a victory for the Panthers would give them a share of the Mid-Continent Conference title. Currently Northern Iowa is 2-0-1 while Eastern is 1-0-1.

"Tying for the conference title would be a plus for us, but the major goal is still the I-AA playoffs and that's the best incentive we have going into this game," said Coach Darrell Mudra.

"We can't take these people lightly . . . it may be just their first year in I-AA but they've made an impact already. For instance they only lost 10-0 at Northern Iowa and we felt fortunate to get out of there with a tie. Murray State had to come from behind at their place to defeat Southwest, and then last week Murray played a one point game with No. 1 ranked Eastern Kentucky.

"I think we are playing **very** well. The month of October was an extremely difficult part of our schedule and we held five reputable I-AA teams to just 49 total points, and that's quite an achievement," Mudra said.

Quarterback Jeff Christensen (Gibson City) has performed well during this stretch. Although his statistics are not as nifty as in previous years due to EIU's more balanced offense, his passing is much sharper.

-more-

He threw nine interceptions during the first four games but during the five October games has been picked off just twice. He has thrown 83 in a row without an interception and had just one miscue in the last 131 pass attempts.

"Jeff has played with a lot more composure. Chuck Dickerson (offensive coordinator) has had sound game plans, and Jeff's executed very well," said Mudra.

Also, Eastern's turnabout in turnovers should be credited for the unbeaten record. At this time last year EIU had coughed up the ball 53 times and gained only 31 in return.

This year EIU has caused 32 turnovers and lost only 20, so the Panthers have made marked improvement in this category.

This week's game will match Southwest Missouri's strong rushing attack against the Panthers strong rushing defense. SWMS is ranked in the top fifteen with nearly 200 yards a game while EIU should be in the top 10 giving up only 87 rushing yards each time out.

Freshman quarterback Greg Arterburn, a former 'player of the year' in Florida's Dade County just outside talent rich Miami, is among the nation's total offense leaders. Directing a Wing-T offense, Arterburn has thrown for 1157 yards and rushed for 488 for a 184 average.

Christensen, though, has been gaining steadily and is over 170 yards a game, and could crack the top 20 this week.

The explosive Jerry Wright (Chicago-Collins) developed into EIU's top pass receiver. He has caught only 19 but gained 452 yards and scored six TDs. His counterpart at Southwest is Lynn May who has 39 receptions for 707 yards.

GAME NOTES

THE SERIES: EIU leads this short series, 3-1-1, winning the last two games, 41-0 and 23-14. The first game was played in 1971 with EIU coming out on top 32-21 but Southwest won the next year 41-37. There was a 1975 7-7 tie.

LAST YEAR: The Panthers jumped to a 23-7 lead as Jeff Christensen scored on a 16 yard run and threw for a nine yard scoring strike to Roger Holoman. Christensen was 15 of 39 for 187 yards while Kevin Staple rushed for 66 yards and caught three passes for 44. None of Southwest Missouri's current offensive stat leaders accumulated any yardage. John Finders, now a running back, caught one pass for 14 yards.

LAST WEEK: The Panther defense forced Southern Illinois to turnover the football ten times and sacked the quarterback four times enroute to a 20-7 win. Wide receiver Jerry Wright (Chicago-Collins) caught six passes for 157 yards and a 21 yard TD. QB Jeff Christensen (Gibson City) completed 14 of 28 for 219 yards and no interceptions. Halfback Kevin Staple (Markham-Thornwood) ran 28 times for 92 yards.

Southwest Missouri dropped a 30-19 game to No. 15 ranked Nicholls State despite the fact that freshman QB Greg Arterburn completed 14 of 30 passes for 242 yards. However Arterburn, who had rushed for over 50 yards per game, was minus three in that category.

THE COACHES: EIU's Darrell Mudra, in his fifth year at EIU, is 44-14-1. In his 21st year overall he is 154-64-2, and ranks third among active I-AA coaches for most victories.

Rich Johannningmeier of Southwest is 40-30-3 in his seventh season. A win today would guarantee his fifth winning season at SWMO.

TEN STRAIGHT: The Panthers 8-0-1 record gives EIU ten straight games without a loss dating back to last year. The last team to defeat the Panthers was Indiana State, 27-14. The current record equals the 1914 squad which finished at 8-0-1. The 1901, 1917, 1922 and 1928 squads also were unbeaten but ties marred a perfect record however none played as many games as the current Panthers who have an opportunity to finish with an all-time best regular season won-lost mark.

QB SACKS: EIU is just one away from tying a season quarterback sack record. The Panthers currently have 51, the record is 52 in 1979. Keith Wojnowski (St. Anne-Kankakee Bishop McNamara) leads with 12 followed by Greg Duncan (Miami, FL-Killian) with 10½.

NCAA I-AA RANKING: EIU, ranked No. 7 this past week, is likely to stay at that spot since none of the six ahead of it lost. EIU is still just one of three teams without any losses. The other two are Eastern Kentucky (7-0) and Tennessee State (7-0-1), both whom only play ten games.

INJURY REPORT: The Panthers top 44 should be ready to go. The only one doubtful is Wes Nixon (Lorain, OH-Illinois Valley CC), who is still out with a knee injury although practicing on a limited basis. He's a halfback.

NCAA STATS: Kevin Staple's 98 yard average is ranked No. 15 in rushing. Dave Strauch (Hinsdale-Central) is 6th in field goals with 1.33 per game. EIU is 5th in net punting with a 38.1 average. EIU is 10th in rushing defense at 87.2. EIU is 19th in total defense at 267.4. EIU is 5th in scoring defense at 10.0.

JACKSON RECORD: Ortega Jackson (Washington, DC-Cardoza), junior linebacker, recovered two fumbles against Southern Illinois to set a season record of six, breaking the old mark of five by Randy Melvin and Alonzo Lee.

MINES RECORD: Bill Mines (Washington, DC-Woodson), senior linebacker, has 112 total tackles (solos and assists) this season. He needs just eight more to break Randy Melvin's 1979 record 119. Also, Mines earlier set a career record for tackles. He has 351 topping Melvin's 334.

EIU FOOTBALL
ADD 3

STAPLE NEARS 1000: Kevin Staple has 875 yards rushing this year and needs just 126 to become only the sixth EIU rusher to reach that figure in a single season.

MCC 'PLAYERS OF THE

WEEK: Both Jerry Wright (Chicago-Collins) and Robert Williams (Chicago-Dunbar) were chosen Mid-Continent Conference offensive and defensive 'Players of the Week' for their performance in Saturday's win over SIU. Wright, a sophomore wide receiver, caught six passes for 157 yards and a 21 yard TD pass. Williams, a junior strong safety, had ten tackles including seven solos, two pass interceptions and a fumble recovery on the SIU 22 that set up an EIU field goal.

MCC STANDINGS:	<u>TEAM</u>	<u>OVERALL</u>	<u>MCC</u>	<u>POINTS</u>
	Eastern Illinois	8-0-1	1-0-1	194-90
	Southwest Missouri	5-4	1-1	200-133
	Northern Iowa	3-4-1	2-0-1	117-168
	Western Illinois	1-7	0-3	97-118

Today's Games: Eastern Illinois at Southwest Missouri
Western Illinois hosts Youngstown State
Northern Iowa at North Dakota State

1982 S. STERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL STATISTICS (8-0-1)

<u>RUSHING</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>ATT</u>	<u>GAIN</u>	<u>LOST</u>	<u>NET</u>	<u>P/GAME</u>	<u>P/CARRY</u>	<u>TD</u>	<u>LONG</u>
Kevin Staple	9	196	966	91	875	97.7	4.5	7	88(YSU)
Wes Nixon	7	92	389	38	351	50.1	3.8	2	31(ISU)
Darryon White	9	45	200	11	189	21.0	4.2	-	34(WSU)
Tyrone Davis	7	23	90	4	86	12.3	3.7	-	14(WIU)
Jeff Christensen	9	61	159	183	-24	-	-	1	31(ISU)
Pat Blair	6	3	36	-	36	6.0	12.0	-	15(AKR)
Jerry Wright	9	2	-	10	-10	-	-	-	-
Booker Brown	6	1	1	-	1	0.1	1.0	-	1(WIU)
EIU TOTALS	9	423	1841	337	1504	167.1	3.5	10	88(YSU)
OPPONENTS	9	372	1317	532	785	87.2	2.1	5	33(SIU)

<u>PASSING</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>CPL</u>	<u>ATT</u>	<u>INT</u>	<u>YDS</u>	<u>PCT</u>	<u>P/GAME</u>	<u>P/CPL</u>	<u>P/ATT</u>	<u>TD</u>	<u>LONG</u>
Jeff Christensen	9	117	245	11	1566	.477	174.0	13.4	6.4	13	52(ISU)
EIU TOTALS	9	117	245	11	1566	.477	174.0	13.4	6.4	13	52(ISU)
OPPONENTS	9	126	258	17	1622	.488	180.2	12.9	6.3	5	45(ISU)

<u>PASS RECEIVING</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>REC</u>	<u>YDS</u>	<u>P/CATCH</u>	<u>P/GAME</u>	<u>TD</u>	<u>LONG</u>	<u>TEAM TOTALS</u>	<u>EIU</u>	<u>OPP</u>
Wes Nixon	7	15	207	13.8	29.6	2	30(WSU)	First Downs	153	143
Kevin Staple	9	20	102	5.1	11.3	-	21(IND)	by rushing	83	52
Roger Holoman	9	15	228	15.2	25.3	-	34(WSU)	by passing	67	75
Darryon White	9	17	216	12.7	24.0	1	52(ISU)	by penalty	3	16
Jim Schmidt	7	10	130	13.0	18.6	-	18(WSU)	TOTAL OFFENSE	3070	2407
Jerry Wright	9	19	452	23.8	50.2	6	58(AKR)	per game	341.1	267.4
Dirk Androff	9	5	35	7.0	3.9	3	11(WSU)	total plays	668	630
Pat Blair	6	11	165	15.0	27.5	1	23(AKR)	yds. p/play	4.6	3.8
Tyrone Davis	7	4	24	6.0	3.4	-	8(SIU)	PENALTY/YDS	63/641	47/386
Roy Ellis	1	1	7	7.0	7.0	-	7(WSU)	FUMBLES/LOST	16/9	23/16
EIU TOTALS	9	117	1566	13.4	174.0	13	58(AKR)			
OPPONENTS	9	126	1622	12.9	180.2	5	45(ISU)			

<u>PUNTING</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>YDS</u>	<u>AVE</u>	<u>RET</u>	<u>NET</u>	<u>AVE</u>	<u>LONG</u>	<u>SCORE BY QUARTERS</u>					
Don Manzke	9	63	2529	40.1	123	2406	38.2	63(YSU)						
EIU TOTALS	9	63	2529	40.1	123	2406	38.2	63(YSU)	EIU	27	79	43	45	- 194
OPPONENTS	9	67	2513	37.5	226	2287	34.1	66(YSU)	OPP	17	44	3	26	- 90

<u>RETURNS</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>KO</u>	<u>YDS</u>	<u>AVE</u>	<u>TD</u>	<u>LONG</u>	<u>PT</u>	<u>YDS</u>	<u>AVE</u>	<u>TD</u>	<u>LONG</u>
Wes Nixon	7	8	184	23.0	-	43(NEMO)	5	60	12.0	-	41(WSU)
Darryon White	9	2	34	17.0	-	18(WIU)	-	-	-	-	-
Randy McCue	9	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	0.3	-	1(UNI)
Kevin Staple	9	2	36	18.0	-	18(YSU)	-	-	-	-	-
Gary Bridges	8	1	28	28.0	-	28(SIU)	4	29	7.3	-	13(ISU)
Brian Newby	7	-	-	-	-	-	3	-4	-	-	-
Charlie Person	9	-	-	-	-	-	18	110	6.1	-	38(UNI)
Booker Brown	6	6	88	14.7	-	23(WSU)	-	-	-	-	-
Chris Nicholson	9	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	10.0	-	10(WSU)
Roger Holoman	9	1	17	17.0	-	17(IND)	-	-	-	-	-
Dan Fallon	9	-	-	-	-	-	1	20	20.0	-	20(WSU)
EIU TOTALS	9	20	387	19.4	-	43(NEMO)	35	226	6.5	-	41(WSU)
OPPONENTS	9	36	745	20.7	-	38(IND)	27	123	4.6	-	12(ISU)

<u>SCORING</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>TD</u>	<u>PAT/K</u>	<u>PAT/R-P</u>	<u>FG</u>	<u>SAF</u>	<u>POINTS</u>
Kevin Staple	9	7	-	-	-	-	42
Wes Nixon	7	4	-	-	-	-	24
Darryon White	9	1	-	-	-	-	6
Dave Strauch	9	-	18-22	-	12-18	-	54
Jeff Christensen	9	1	-	-	-	-	6
Dirk Androff	9	3	-	1	-	-	20
Jerry Wright	9	6	-	-	-	-	36
Pat Blair	6	1	-	-	-	-	6
EIU TOTALS	9	23	18-22	1	12-18	-	194 (21.6 ppg)
OPPONENTS	9	10	9-10	-	7-13	-	90 (10.0 ppg)

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

	G	T	AT	SACKS (YDS)	TFL (YDS)	FF	FR	INT/YDS/TD	FG	BLOCKS			PUNT
										PAT	PASS		
Bill Mines	9	42	70	3(-34)	2(-6)	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gary Bridges	8	14	8	2(-37)	-	-	-	3-47-0	1	-	-	-	-
Robert Williams	9	52	36	-	-	-	1	2-0-0	-	-	-	-	-
Greg Duncan	9	44	31	10½(-96)	5(-15)	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Elvin Carmichael	9	39	18	6(-47)	5(-14)	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
David Fergurson	9	16	28	3½(-34)	2(-7)	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Ortega Jackson	9	20	31	1(-7)	1(-3)	1	6	3-36-0	-	-	-	-	-
Randy McCue	9	27	17	-	-	1	2	6-43-0	-	-	-	-	1
Chris Nicholson	9	30	22	6½(-64)	4(-13)	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Reggie Taylor	7	35	29	5½(-44)	2(-8)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Keith Wojnowski	9	39	24	12(-108)	8(-26)	1	1	-	-	-	2	-	-
Charlie Person	9	22	12	-	1(-2)	-	-	2-3-0	-	-	-	-	-
Dan Fallon	7	11	8	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tyrone Covington	8	19	25	1(-10)	1(-4)	3	1	1-20-0	-	-	-	-	-
Al Jennings	6	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Joe Mitchell	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Reggie Drew	7	10	6	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Woody Shaw	1	1	1	-	1(-3)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mike Angland	4	1	1	1(-5)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

KEY: T (Solo Tackles) AT (Assisted Tackles) SACKS (QB Only) TFL (Tackles for Loss) FF (Forced Fumbles)

FR (Fumble Recoveries)

1982 RESULTS (8-0-1, 1-0-1)

27 14 ILLINOIS STATE (8200)
 18 17 NORTHEAST MISSOURI (7000)
 27 0 WAYNE STATE (7200)
 10 10 at Northern Iowa * (10,276)
 27 23 at Youngstown State (8895)
 18 0 AKRON (10, 631)
 16 12 at Indiana State (15,471)
 31 7 at Western Illinois * (10,399)
 20 7 SOUTHERN ILLINOIS (9120)
 Nov. 6 at Southwest Missouri *
 Nov. 13 KENTUCKY STATE (Parents Weekend)

* Mid-Continent Conference